

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO DEFENSE FOR DR. MALCOLM CURRIE (DDR&E)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: OCON, MILI, NATO, PO

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE ATTENDANCE AT CNAD MEETING, OCTOBER 28-30, 1975

1. GARDINER TUCKER (ASYG DEFENSE SUPPORT) CALLED ON DCM OCTOBER 21 TO STATE THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED WORD THAT PORTUGUESE INTEND TO SEND MAJOR GENERAL JOSE MARIA SOARES DA COSTA ALVARES AS REPRESENTATIVE TO CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS (CNAD) MEETING OCTOBER 28-30.

2. TUCKER SAID HE HAD APPROACHED PORTUGUESE PERMREP DE FREITAS CRUZ CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF INDUCING LISBON TO FOREGO REPRESENTATION AT MEETING. HOWEVER, DE FREITAS CRUZ TOLD TUCKER THAT, ALTHOUGH PORTUGUESE WERE NOT RECEIVING NATO SECRET MATERIAL, LISBON WAS NOT AWARE OF THIS, AND DE FREITAS CRUZ DID NOT WISH TO RISK AROUSING THE IRE OF HIS AUTHORITIES, ESPECIALLY THE MILITARY, BY PROPOSING THAT PORTUGUESE NOT SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO CNAD MEETING.

3. TUCKER THEN OUTLINED TO DCM HIS PORPOSAL FOR DEALING WITH THE SENSITIVE ISSUE OF PORTUGUESE ACCESS AT CNADS TO NATO INFORMATION CLASSIFIED SECRET AND ABOVE, ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. AT SESSION BEFORE FIRST FORMAL SESSION CNAD REPS (PRINCIPALS ONLY), LESS THE PORTUGUESE, WOULD DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVE SECRET

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MATTERS TOUCHING ON NATO SECRET OR SIMILAR SENSITIVE MATERIAL IN AN UNOFFICIAL, RESTRICTED MEETING IN HIS OFFICE.

B. THEN IN OFFICIAL, PLENARY SESSION TUCKER WOULD LIMIT

DISCUSSION TO MATTERS NOT CLASSIFIED NATO SECRET OR ABOVE.

4. A PRINCIPAL AGENDA ITEM AFFECTED BY THIS PROCEDURE WOULD BE ITEM V - AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING (AWACS). SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS INVOLVING SECRET PERFORMANCE DATA AND OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS WOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE RESTRICTED SESSION, AND DISCUSSION IN PLENARY WOULD BE LIMITED TO SUCH MATTERS AS THE MOU AND CONTRACT DEFINITION (CD), COST SHARING, COPRODUCTION, LONG LEAD-TIME FUNDING, ACQUISITION COST SHARING, ETC., WHERE PORTUGUESE ATTENDANCE WOULD NOT PRESENT A PROBLEM. (COMMENT: A PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATIVE HAS PARTICIPATED IN MEETINGS OF THE AC/259 HIGH LEVEL GROUP (HLG) ON AEW WHICH HAS DISCUSSED FINANCIAL, ACQUISITION, AND PRODUCTION ASPECTS OF NATO AWACS. END COMMENT.) IF ADDITIONAL MATTERS CLASSIFIED SECRET AND ABOVE NEEDED TO BE ADDRESSED FURTHER, ADDITIONAL RUMP SESSIONS, LESS PORTUGUESE REP, COULD BE SCHEDULED.

5. CHRONOLOGICALLY, TUCKER THUS PROPOSED TO PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

A. ON OCTOBER 22, HE IS SENDING TELEGRAMS TO EACH NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTOR (LESS THE PORTUGUESE) BY NAME, ASKING THEM TO MEET AT TUCKER'S OFFICE AT 0930 IN TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, PRIOR TO OPENING CNAD PLENARY. THIS MEETING WOULD BE LIMITED TO PRINCIPALS ONLY, ONE PER COUNTRY.

B. AT 0930 MEETING OCTOBER 28, TUCKER WOULD EXPLAIN PLAN IN PARAS 3 AND 4 ABOVE TO CNAD PRINCIPALS.

C. AT PLENARY SESSION, HE WOULD REORDER AND MANAGE AGENDA SO THAT AWACS AND ANY OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF MATERIAL CLASSIFIED NATO SECRET AND ABOVE WOULD NOT COME UP UNTIL SECOND DAY.

D. TUCKER WOULD MEET AGAIN WITH CNAD REPS IN RESTRICTED SESSION (LESS PORTUGUESE REP) EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 29, TO ADDRESS SENSITIVE SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF AWACS AND, TIME PERMITTING, OTHER HIGHLY CLASSIFIED AGENDA ITEMS, AS APPROPRIATE. DISCUSSION IN PLENARY SESSION THEREAFTER WOULD NOT INCLUDE SECRET

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SECRET OR SENSITIVE MATERIAL. PLENARY MEETING WOULD START AT 1100; RATIONALE FOR LATE START BEING TO ALLOW TIME FOR BILATERAL MEETINGS.

E. TUCKER WOULD REPEAT WEDNESDAY PROCEDURE ON THURSDAY, IF REQUIRED.

6. BECAUSE AWACS MATERIAL DOES NOT CONVENIENTLY BREAK OUT INTO "SECRET/SENSITIVE" AND "LESS THAN SECRET/NON-SENSITIVE" CATEGORIES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ALMOST ALL SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE IN RESTRICTED SESSION, WITH ONLY "FIG LEAF" COVERAGE IN PLENARY SESSION TO PRESERVE APPEARANCES. IF AWACS SHOULD TAKE MORE TIME FOR DISCUSSION THAN COULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN

RESTRICTED SESSION, TUCKER HAS A SUPPLEMENTAL OPTION FOR DEALING WITH THIS ITEM: HE COULD SIMPLY DECLARE THE CNAD MEETING CLOSED FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF FINAL AGENDA ITEM ON LAST DAY AND REASSEMBLE CND DELEGATIONS IN MEETING OF AC/259 HIGH LEVEL GROUP IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. SINCE PORTUGAL, BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS HAVE FORMALLY STATED THAT THEY WILL CONTRIBUTE NEITHER TO THE CD EFFORT NOR IN ANY SUBSEQUENT ACQUISITION PHASE, CNDA DELEGATIONS FROM THESE THREE COUNTRIES WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE HLG EXECUTIVE SESSION. HLG WOULD COMPLETE DISCUSSION OF AWACS.

7.COMMENT: TUCKER CONSIDERS THAT HE WILL NEED STRONG SUPPORT FROM US CNAD DELEGATION IN ORDER TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE FOR HIS PROPOSAL AND TO MAKE IT WORK. HIS PROPOSAL STRIKES US AS REASONABLE AND IT IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT NATO GUIDELINES FOR DEALING WITH ISSUE OF PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT US CNAD JOIN IN SUPPORTING TUCKER'S EFFORT TO MEET NEED TO PROTECT CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OCTOBER 23. BRUCE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DEFENSE.

SECRET

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